

November 9, 2012

# Weekly Views

Aisha Brandy had never seen a live pig until she got to kiss one on the snout. Aisha was the winner of the Miami Correctional Facility's (MCF) Kiss-A-Pig Competition which was started in September to promote the State Employees Community Campaign. The competition raised \$217 and a great deal of awareness about the campaign, especially the Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI) to which 60 people from MCF donated \$16,500. MCF raised more than \$37,683 through the SECC campaign, an increase of 70.4 percent over last year, according to Miami's SECC/CPAFI Chair Scarlett Graves. (See photo below)

Offenders and staff from the Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) CLIFF (Clean Lifestyle is Freedom Forever) unit held a fundraiser to benefit the Riley Children's Hospital Neonatal Unit. The offenders and staff prepared sack lunches of hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies and soda for sale to RCF staff. This event raised \$1396. CLIFF is donating \$600 to Riley's and the remainder of the funds is for programming needs for the self-sustaining therapeutic community.



Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility assisted the Larwill Volunteer Fire Department with their annual fish fry fundraiser. Eleven offenders helped with the preparation of over 700 pounds of fish and 200 pounds of onion rings. The offenders returned the following day to help with the clean up. Larwill Fire Department personnel stated they appreciated the help provided by the offender volunteers.

In remembrance of Veteran's Day, the American Legion Post 130 held a service at the Indiana State Prison. This ceremony recognized the service of past, present and future veterans. The American Legion Post 130 reached a milestone of donating over \$100,000 to charities in the last twelve years. In attendance were Senator Jim Arnold, American Legion State Commander Richard Jewell, American Legion 3rd District Commander Daniel Lee, Assistant Superintendent Dan McBride, Superintendent William Wilson, Major Kenneth Gann and Gus Carlson, former staff.

Lieutenant David Ezekiel along with eleven members of the Hostage Negotiation Team at the Federal Correctional Complex in Terre Haute, IN visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) for a tour and to meet with members of PCF's administrative staff and Emergency Response Operations Teams.

The halls of the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility's (WVCF) Administration Building were filled with health care professionals taking part in The WVCF Health Fair! The WVCF Employee Appreciation Committee came up with the health fair for staff to coincide with annual flu shots. Over 13 agencies from around the Wabash Valley took part in the event. Staff received everything from bone density, body fat monitoring, and hearing tests to therapeutic massage. (See photo left of WVCF staff meeting with healthcare providers)



Thanks to donations from staff and other sources, 30 dads from the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility, along with 55 of their children, enjoyed a Halloween Festival, which included clowns, face painting, crafts, games, prizes, and an all-you-can-eat buffet—prepared by Culinary Arts students and their instructor Dennis Brady—and complete with beef hotdogs, candied apples, baked cookies, cakes, brownies, drinks, chips, and snacks. The Art Department clerks transformed the hallway leading from the FED classroom to the recreation center into a haunted house with a live Dracula and werewolf to spook the children. A Piece of Cake Company provided a bounce house, which got plenty of use by the kids.

Miami Correctional Facility hosted a Kairos Ministries Retreat. Thirty-six men from all denominations are allowed to participate in the program, which brought in 42 volunteers, plus another 50 for the ending ceremony on Sunday. Once the weekend program is completed, the offenders continue to meet in reunion meetings each month with others who have completed the program.

The Westville Correctional Facility (WCCF) hosted another successful Kairos weekend. The four day event welcomed 35 Kairos volunteers and 40 offenders who participated in a collection of activities and faith building exercises. The participating offenders were personally interviewed and selected by WCC's facility Chaplain. Along with their spiritual messages, Kairos volunteers brought thousands of bags of homemade cookies for delivery to each and every offender at WCC.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted Kairos with 42 Kairos volunteers from a wide array of religious and ethnic backgrounds offered guidance and provided refreshments and meals for 42 offenders. On the last day of the program all past graduates that had continued with the weekly meeting and 62 guests from outside the facility attended a ceremony that allowed the offenders a sometimes tearful opportunity to tell what the weekend had meant to them.